THE

CRISIS.

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BLOOD calls for BLOOD.

To the People of England.

Friends and Fellow Countrymen,

LET me conjure you by all you hold dear, HERE and HEREAFTER, by all the Ties of NATURE and JUSTICE, to rouſe in Defence of your perſecuted Brethren and Fellow Subjects in *America*, who Daily fall Innocent Victoms to LAWLESS Power: let me intreat you to rouſe in Defence of your Rights and Liberties; thoſe Rights and Liberties which Heaven gave, and for which your Fathers bravely Fought, and Glorioufly fell, to preſerve themſelves, and us their Poſterity FREE; be aſſured if BLEEDING *America* can be reduced to Slavery, all the boaſted Privileges of Engliſhmen muſt fall with her: let me therefore beſeech you to OPPOSE with uplifted Hands, and ſtreatched

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out Arms, the CRUEL, BLOODY, and UNNATURAL Tyranny of GEORGE the *Third*, and his diabolical Tory Minions: Perdition, Deſtruction, and all the Miſeries of a tortured Death, attend the Wretch, who calls himſelf an ENGLISHMAN, and yet can TAMELY ſee his BROTHER, or Fellow Subject, Periſh through wanton Cruelty, Oppreſſion, or the Sword.

No Tyrant was ever more Deſpotic and Cruel than the preſent Sovereign, who diſgraces the Seat of Royalty in the Britiſh Empire; no Court ever more Corrupt than his, and yet, O my Countrymen, to this mercileſs and deſpotic Tyrant, and to his wicked and corrupt Miniſtry, you ſacrifice your Rights, and yield a PEACEABLE Submiſſion.

Conſider the gloomy, the dreadful Proſpect before you, the Plains of *America* are running with the BLOOD of her Inhabitants, the Eſſence of the Engliſh Conſtitution deſtroyed, and nothing but the Form, the mere Shadow of it remains; all the dear bought Liberties purchaſed and ſealed with the BLOOD of your Forefathers, wreſted from you by the polluted Hands of an abandoned ſet of Miſcreants, ſupported and defended by a ROYAL TYRANT; and a dark cloud of Slavery, like a riſing Tempeſt, overſpreads the Land, it approaches Swiftly, and at this Moment threatens our Deſtruction; it is therefore high Time you ſhould be rouſed and awakened to a ſenſe of your Danger, and by an appeal to Heaven, by a glorious RESISTANCE, provide for your common Safety.

This is the only way, we have no other, to prevent the RUIN that threatens us, if we are inattentive or inactive at this Time, our Chains will be faſt rivetted, and Liberty muſt expire; your Petitions and Remonſtrances have been ſpurned by the King, and you have now no Remedy left but that of entering into an ASSOCIATION in Defence of your Common Rights, and the Rights of *America*. They have ſet you a noble Example, an Example worthy of Britons, an Example which you are Bound by all the Principles of Juſtice and Self-preſervation to FOLLOW; he muſt be Blind that is not convinced of this, and he is an abandoned Wretch, an Enemy to Mankind, who will not purſue the Road.

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Upon your Virtue and Reſolution at this juncture, depends the SALVATION of England and America; it is now in your Power to prevent the farther Progreſs of Deſpotiſm, the Butchery of your Fellow Countrymen, and yourſelves from Slavery and Ruin.

When the humble Supplications of an oppreſſed People are treated with Contempt, and a deaf Ear turned to their Complaints, when their RIGHTS are Daily invaded, their Property unlawfully wreſted from them, and their Blood inhumanly ſhed, it is incumbent on them, it is a Duty they owe to God and their Country, to take the Field and reſiſt their Oppreſſors, to ſhew themſelves BRAVE, when Bravery is required, and dare to be Reſolute in the Hour of Danger. Remember, my Fellow Countrymen, our Predeceſſors led the Way, the Americans have followed their noble Example, and we are Bound to follow them. Where would have been LIBERTY and PROPERTY, if it had not been for the Virtue, Bravery, and Reſolution of our Anceſtors? they ſtood FORTH in the glorious Cauſe, and many of them ſecured it to Poſterity by their BLOOD. Shall we then, TAMELY ſubmit to have thoſe Privileges for which they FOUGHT and FELL, raviſhed from us by a Lawleſs tribe of Men, who call themſelves Senators or Miniſters, and who taking Advantage of their Prince, are laying waſte their Country, and ſpreading Deſolation through the Land? Shall it be ſaid in after Times, that the Year ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED and SEVENTY FIVE, was leſs Glorious than that of SIXTEEN HUNDRED and EIGHTY EIGHT; and that as the Age grew more and more enlightened, it became more and more PUSILLANIMOUS. Forbid it Heaven!

Let me intreat you, O! Engliſhman, to rouſe from that ſtate of Supineneſs in which you have ſo long lain; open your Eyes to the Danger that ſurrounds you, and ſtand forth the Defenders of AMERICAN VIRTUE and PUBLIC LIBERTY. HAVOC is now the Cry at *St. James's*, and the Dogs of War are let looſe to tear out the Vitals of our Brethren; *America* through the abandoned Cruelty of an accurſed Adminiſtration, and an unrelenting King, is become a FIELD of BLOOD, overſpread with Deſolation and Slaughter. It is in your Power to put an end to this horrid, unnatural CIVIL WAR, it muſt

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owe its extinction or continuance to you, if you are Virtuous, Brave, and Reſolute, the Lives, Liberties, and Properties of your Fellow Subjects, may be preſerved, and your Country ſaved from Deſtruction; if on the Contrary, you ſhould be irreſolute and Puſillanimous at this Time, (unworthy the Name of Engliſhmen) Thouſands, many thouſand Lives muſt be loſt; the Liberties of England will be more, and your Property taken from you at the Will and Pleaſure of the King and his Miniſters.

It can only be from the Virtue and UNITED efforts of England and America, that the Conſtitution of Great Britain, and all our invaluable Privileges can be preſerved; ſhould you remain quiet Spectators of the preſent inhuman Maſſacrees, and deſtructive Meaſures, you will deſerve the worſt of Slavery, and the crueleſt Puniſhment ever inflicted on a People.

If you have any Honour, if you have any Virtue, or any Bravery, you will now ſtand forth and reſiſt the Tyrants, you will demand the Heads of thoſe Men, who adviſed thoſe ſanguinary, fatal, and ruinous Meaſures; you will declare to the World, you will not conſent to Arbitrary invaſions of your Liberties, Arbitrary diſpenſings with the Laws, and Arbitrary governing by an Army; that you owe no Submiſſion to a King, beyond the Bounds of Law; that your Lives, Liberties, and Eſtates, ſhall not be diſpoſed of at his PLEASURE, and that you are Bound by the Laws of God and Man, to reſiſt a Tyrant; that you will oppoſe all unjuſt Violence, and thoſe who attempt the Life of the Conſtitution, as the great Enemies of their Country; this has been practiſed in all Ages, and all Nations determine, that when Kings invade the Lives, Liberties, or Properties of their Subjects, that tear up the Foundations of Public Freedom, and the ſacred Conſtitution of their Country, MAY BE RESISTED, either by calling in and joining with Foreign Aſſiſtance, or by taking Arms in Defence of the Law and common Liberty; this is what was declared at the REVOLUTION, and this is the Foundation upon which the People took Arms in the Time of *Charles the Firſt.*

The Axe is now at the Root of the Tree; the overthrow of the Conſtitution is the great Deſign of the King and his Miniſters,

ſters, the open and avowed Enemies to the natural Rights of Mankind, who have already ſufficiently proved to the World, that they mean the Subverſion of the univerſal Right of Chriſtians and of Subjects. Let thoſe, my Countrymen, who plead for Tyrants, ſubmit to their Power; but let us eſteem Liberty, Religion, and Property, equally with our Lives, every Mans Birthright by Nature; no Government ever received a LEGAL Authority to abridge or take it away; nor has God veſted any ſingle or confederated Power in any Hands to deſtroy it; and it is in Defence of theſe glorious Privileges, theſe common Rights, I have written this Paper, and to preſerve them unviolated by the polluted Hands of Lawleſs Tyrants, I would lay down my Life, for Life is a burthen in any other State than that of FREEDOM.

It is notoriouſly known, notwithſtanding all the Royal and miniſterial Falſhoods which have been, and are Daily advanced, to our Diſgrace, it is known that we do not enjoy, undiminiſhed, one ſingle Privilege purchaſed by the Blood of our Anceſtors, and confirmed to us by MAGNA CHARTA and the BILL of RIGHTS. Every Man then, who remains paſſive at this Time, is an Enemy and a Traitor to his Country. I looſe all kind of Patience when I reflect upon the melancholy Situation of England and America, and the villainous Principles of thoſe Men, intruſted by the Sovereign with the Management of the Affairs of this once great, free, and powerful Kingdom. I am fired with a juſt Indignation againſt the Authors of our Misfortunes; and if I appear too Warm, I hope it will be imputed to my Zeal in the Public Cauſe, and not to any Malice or Reſentment, againſt Individuals, for I here declare to have none, but I moſt ſincerely wiſh to ſtop the further Effuſion of Human Blood, and would willingly ſacrifice my Life, could I reſcue my Country from the Hands of PARRICIDES and TRAITORS, and from that Deſtruction which now threatens it.

To the PUBLIC.

THE Neceſſity, Utility, and National Advantage of a political Paper in Defence of the nattural Rights of Mankind at this IMPORTANT ÆRA, muſt appear greater than at the laſt glorious Revolution. We now ſee, and with infinite Concern, the King and Miniſtry, the Lords and Commons, all united, and firmly reſolved, on perſuing Meaſures, which (without a noble Oppoſition from the People) muſt end in the Deſtruction of

of the Laws, Rights, and Liberties, of the whole Britiſh Empire, in *England and America.* It is therefore only neceſſary to ſay, this Paper will be carried on by two Gentlemen of literay Abilities, alike Enemies to the Arbitary efforts of ONE, or a *purchaſed Majority* of FIVE HUNDRED and FIFTY EIGHT TYRANTS, to whom they, and they hope, their Fellow Subjects, never will ſubmit.

Potior viſa eſt periculoſa libertas quieto ſervitio.

SALLUST.

The CRISIS will be continued with Spirit, in defiance of every exertion of Lawleſs Power, upon the true Principles of the Conſtitution, againſt the ſecret Machinations, and deſpotic Deſigns, of the preſent corrupt Court and Miniſtry. The Authors being determined, even at the riſk of every thing that is dear to Man, to reſcue the Liberty of the Preſs, the natural Rights of Mankind, and the Conſtitution of the Britiſh Empire, in *England and America*, from that Ruin, with which they are now threatened. In order with more Eaſe to accompliſh theſe great Ends, they earneſtly beg the Aſſiſtance of thoſe, who are real Friends to the Laws, Liberties, and Conſtitution of their Country.

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